

Mubarak warns parties

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak has warned political parties against making religion an issue in Monday's parliamentary elections in Egypt. "Using religion to win the votes is sensitive and dangerous... playing with the country's stability could lead to destruction," Mr. Mubarak told a political rally in the Nile Delta town of El-Maadia. "There is no difference between a Muslim and a Christian... we are all Egyptians," he added. More than 10 per cent of Egypt's 51 million people are Coptic Christians in a mainly Sunni Muslim population. Mr. Mubarak's warning came after the 458-member People's Assembly, including Mr. Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP), raised religion as an issue. NDP candidate Amal Osman, the only woman cabinet minister, appeared recently for the first time in public, in a long Islamic dress with her head covered, praying in the country's oldest mosque. Pictures of Ms. Osman sitting next to a popular Muslim scholar, Sheikh Mohammad Mawali Sharawi, appeared in the newspapers.

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King sends good wishes to Senegal and Hungary

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent cables of good wishes to Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and Hungarian head of state Pal Cosonczi congratulating them on the occasion of their countries' Independence Day. The King wished President Diouf and Mr. Cosonczi continuing good health and happiness and the people of Senegal and Hungary further progress and prosperity.

Jordan-Egypt private sector council to meet

CAIRO (Petra) — The Jordanian-Egyptian Businessmen's Council will hold its annual meetings in Cairo on April 12 under the patronage of Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedqi. A delegation of 20 Jordanian businessmen will take part in these two-day meetings.

Paediatrics talks end

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth Jordanian paediatrics conference concluded its two-day meetings in Amman on Friday after adopting a number of recommendations stressing the importance of placing immunisation on the top of national health priorities. Dr. Hassan Farouq, chairman of the Jordanian Paediatricians Association, said participants emphasised that most of the anti-diarrhoea drugs have side effects on children and therefore should not be used for treating diarrhoeal diseases. He added that participants stressed the importance of holding periodic meetings and conferences so that paediatricians become familiar with the recent breakthroughs. See earlier story on page 3.

Palestinians appeal to Thatcher

OPPRESSED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have appealed to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to help them fight Israeli restrictions preventing them from being reunited with their families. The Committee for Family Reunification in the Occupied Territories said they sent a letter to Mrs. Thatcher asking her to seek their human rights as assiduously as she has fought for freedom for Soviet Jews wanting to go to Israel. "Family reunification is a serious concern not only for Jews... but also for Palestinians whose spouses, or relatives are living abroad and who are being denied reunification by the Israeli military authorities," the letter said.

U.S. defector listed as deserter

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. army private has been listed by the Pentagon as a deserter from West Germany after the Soviet Union announced that it had given asylum to an American soldier of the same name. The Pentagon on Thursday identified the missing man as Private 2nd Class Wade Evan Roberts, 22, but said it could not confirm whether he had defected from his post at Giessen, West Germany, to the Soviet Union. Roberts had been absent without leave since March 2.

INSIDE

- U.S. accuses Israel of violating arms embargo, page 2
- U.S. provides \$26.2 million for local enterprises, page 3
- Washington insists on Israeli action in Pollard case, page 4
- Ancient adobe offers hope for housing crisis, page 5
- Australia struggles against Pakistan in Sharjah cricket cup, page 6
- First Saudi insurance firms abides by Islamic teachings, page 7
- Reagan's highway bill defeated in Congress, page 8

King visits Syria for talks with Assad on moves for peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer, with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein paid a brief working visit to Damascus on Friday and held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on efforts for Middle East peace and issues of mutual concern.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the talks covered the latest developments in the Middle East and issues related to bilateral relations.

Diplomats quoted in news agency dispatches from Damascus said the King and President Assad exchanged views on efforts towards convening an international conference on the Middle East to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The King's talks with President Assad included two meetings attended by senior officials from both sides and two tête-à-tête discussions between a working luncheon. On the Jordanian side the open discussions and the working luncheon were attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rafai,

The King and the delegation accompanying him returned to Amman later Friday.

The King's visit to Damascus followed official media statements on Thursday that Syria supported the convening of an international conference on the Middle East as the only means for achieving peace in the region on the basis of United Nations resolutions calling for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories and recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people.

Damascus Radio said Thursday that Syria had called for such a conference many years ago and warned of Israel's efforts to block efforts towards convening it. The radio called on all Arabs to come forth with a united strategy to ensure that the Arab stand receives the full support of the international community.

Syria favours the proposed conference but insists its discussions should be based on Palestinian rights and full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands, the Al Baath daily said.

Al Baath said peacemaking could be initiated at an international conference, which should be based on the U.N. resolutions and provided that the U.N. resolutions were adhered to.

However, the paper added, these should not be viewed as preconditions but prerequisites. Peace cannot be based on injustice and cannot be a recognition of the

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U.S. accuses Israel of defying South African arms embargo

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has accused Israel of selling arms to South Africa in defiance of a 1977 U.N. arms embargo — a move that could further strain U.S.-Israeli ties already damaged by the Pollard spy case.

"Israel appears to have sold military systems and sub-systems and provided technical assistance on a regular basis... and (been) involved in the maintenance and upgrade of major systems provided before the 1977 embargo," a State Department report sent to Congress said Thursday.

The report was mandated by Congress last October as part of the 1986 anti-apartheid act imposing sanctions against South Africa. The law empowers Congress to sever U.S. military aid to nations breaking the embargo but there seemed no immediate threat of a cut in aid to Israel.

The three-page unclassified document also said that French and Italian companies, "probably... with the knowledge of their governments," had sold South Africa spare parts for French and Italian weapons systems prior to the embargo.

Arms manufacturers in West Germany, Britain, Switzerland and the Netherlands were also

said in the report to have exported unidentified "articles covered by the embargo" but without government permission.

Of those nations named, however, only Israel receives direct U.S. military aid — \$1.8 billion this year out of a total aid package of \$3 billion.

Some published reports have

said Israel's state-owned arms industry sold arms to South Africa worth \$600-800 million a year. But Israeli sources in Washington have said its military exports are just \$100 million a year.

But initial reaction in Congress suggested that there would be no immediate move to cut U.S. military aid to Israel despite disenchantment with Israel over its role in President Reagan's Iran arms scandal and the exposure of an Israeli spy ring in the United States.

Former U.S. navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Pollard was sentenced last month to life in prison for spying for Israel. His

wife was given a five-year jail term.

The Reagan administration said Thursday that another American was involved in the espionage ring. The Israeli government has called the Pollard affair a rogue operation.

In Jerusalem Thursday, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres withheld comment on the report, saying he had not yet read it. But he reiterated Israel's decision last month to refrain from signing new defence contracts with South Africa.

Mr. Peres also said Israel was considering what additional steps it could take against South Africa. "We think the free world has to apply the necessary means in order to get rid of this terrible policy," he said.

But several house legislators who led the fight to impose sanctions last year said Israel must do more to oppose apartheid.

"Israel announced that it would ban all new military sales contracts to South Africa," said Representative Mickey Leland. "We in Congress welcome this announcement as a first, step in cutting ties with South Africa."

Members of Congress and an

Arab American lobbying group reacted angrily to the State Department report.

Congressmen who had pressed for last year's South Africa sanctions law reacted with outrage to the report Thursday and began a campaign to write letters to the offending governments. But they stopped short of threatening any cutoff of U.S. aid, which the law provides as an option.

Government officials, speaking on condition they not be identified, said Iraq had made known its interest in getting the transport planes and the radar equipment earlier this year.

But the United States, maintaining a policy of neutrality in the war, said it would not issue the necessary export licences, the officials said Thursday.

The officials said no formal request for the sale was made to the United States, but the Iraqis "let it be known" they were interested in the equipment, especially after revelations that President Ronald Reagan authorised the sale of American-made military equipment to Iran.

Iraq has been seeking cargo

aircraft and weapons from suppliers in Western Europe and has expressed an interest in U.S. radar equipment, the officials said.

Washington rejects sale of planes to Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has rejected the sale of American-built C-130 cargo planes to Iraq, officials say, but intelligence data that may help that country in its war with Iran is reportedly being sent.

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Libya reportedly bombing lost airstrip

LONDON (Agencies) — Libyan forces are continuing to bomb a key northern Chad airstrip captured by Chadian troops on March 22, French Defence Minister André Giraud said in a radio interview.

The bombing of the Ouadi Doum airstrip was still going on even though Libyan troops had been driven out of most of northern Chad, Mr. Giraud said Thursday.

He added that rebel troops had "experienced difficulties," but denied they had lost the war.

"This stage in the struggle must be understood as a new experience," he said.

He added his forces had withdrawn from Faya-Largeau, northern Chad's largest town, "so as to organise better."

Libyan and rebel forces began to retreat towards the Aouzou strip, which until last year constituted a tacit truce line between Libyan and Chadian forces, to avoid any direct confrontation with the Libyans.

Both the French and the Americans have satellites which provide photographs of extraordinary definition," the officer said. "They can pinpoint a single truck moving across the desert.

"For several years now, both

countries have provided us with detailed information obtained from these photographs. It was invaluable to us in our offensive against the Libyans because we learned almost immediately of all major Libyan troop concentrations and movements."

Tripoli calls 3 detained Egyptians 'spies'

LONDON (Agencies) — Libya said Friday three Egyptians it was holding were agents sent by Egyptian intelligence to spy and commit sabotage.

The Libyan National News Agency (JANA), monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said they were members of a network of espionage and sabotage sent by Egyptian intelligence to carry out acts of sabotage and spying inside Libya.

JANA said it had reported this

on May 16 last year but wanted to clarify the situation following reports quoting Egyptian officials as saying Libya was holding three

A leader of the Chad rebels

who are fighting alongside Libyan troops was largely due to accurate intelligence, including satellite data provided by the United States and France, a senior officer said Friday.

The officer, insisting on anonymity, said the intelligence assistance began in 1983, at the time the French army was first deployed in force to halt the advance of Libya's expeditionary force into Chad.

Some 2,500 French paratroopers, a squadron of French Jaguar fighter bombers and several British observation planes have been based in Chad since then.

But the French combat forces have strict orders to remain below the 16th parallel, which until

the 16th parallel

Home news

Clocks move forward for summer time savings

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Friday started its first day of summer time with clocks moved one hour forward. Summer time will be adopted until Oct. 2, 1987 after which Jordan will go back on winter time.

In the coming six-month period of summer time, the time in Jordan will be three hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) instead of two, a practice followed for the third consecutive year in the Kingdom. The move follows a government-led campaign which began in 1984 with

the aim of rationalising energy consumption as part of an effort to reduce the Kingdom's fuel import bills.

By adopting summer time, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources hopes to save one hour's worth of energy each day by making more use of sunlight.

In 1985, the first year that Jordan switched to summer time after a break of seven years, the Kingdom saved about JD 1 million in fuel import bills.

Syria switched on to summer time on March 1 and Iraq moved to summer time as of April 1.

NEWS IN BRIEF

King honours Radda Barnen head

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday conferred on Hakan Landelius, former secretary general of the Swedish Save the Children (Radda Barnen), Jordan's Independence Medal of the Second Order in appreciation of his services for children, particularly in Jordan. The medal was handed over to Mr. Landelius by Her Majesty Queen Noor on Thursday at a special ceremony held at the Royal Court. Present at the ceremony were Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan, Director of Noor Al Hussein Foundation in Amman, and the Swedish ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Lars Lonnbeck. Radda Barnen, in cooperation with Noor Al Hussein Foundation, has set up a children's institute in Sweileh.

Queen chairs Jerash Festival committee

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Thursday chaired a meeting of the Higher National Committee on the Jerash Festival, which will be held during the 1987 summer. The meeting reviewed the festival's programme in which Arab and foreign troupes from 12 different countries will take part. A spokesman for the committee said that troupes will come from Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Czechoslovakia, Spain, Britain, the Soviet Union, Poland, the United States as well as Jordan. The meeting, he said, discussed a number of organisational matters related to the festival which will be held under royal patronage between July 8 and July 31.

Princess Basma opens SCF festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the president of the Jordanian Save the Children Fund, Friday opened a festival held by the fund at the Amman Plaza Hotel. The festival included performances and displays of popular and international children's fashions, fancy dress parades as well as various children's games. A number of diplomatic missions, social and cultural organisations, the armed forces musical band, the Royal Jordanian folklore troupe as well as various school teams took part in the event. Proceeds from this event will go to the fund's various projects and services in the country. At the end of the festival Princess Basma presented director of the Amman Plaza Hotel Louis Cavizel with a prize in appreciation of the services offered by the hotel to the fund.

Dajani visits Mafrag Governorate

MAFRAG (Petra) — Interior Minister Rajai Dajani on Thursday said that the ministry will coordinate with officials in Mafrag Governorate to facilitate issuing passports and civil registration certificates to citizens in remote areas. During an open meeting in Ruweisheit, Mr. Dajani said his ministry is keen on improving the performance of all administrative units in all governorates, districts and sub districts to meet the needs of citizens. Following the meeting Mr. Dajani inspected work at the temporary border point in Ruweisheit and toured the new premises currently constructed there at a cost of JD 1 million. Mr. Dajani also visited desert police stations in the governorate.

JPA presents requests to Khatib

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Press Association (JPA) has presented Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khatib with a number of requests designed to help promote the work of Jordanian journalists. The requests were presented by JPA President Rakan Al Majali and association members at a meeting with the minister on Thursday. One request calls on the government to amend the present association law to make it more flexible to recent developments. Mr. Majali also briefed the minister on the association's present financial situation. The minister stressed that the Ministry of Information will continue supporting the JPA and will study means of supporting it financially to help it carry on with its national task.

Municipality to discuss World Bank loans

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-member delegation from the Greater Amman Municipality left for the U.S. on Thursday for talks with officials at the World Bank regarding loans to support the municipality's various projects.

U.S. theatre group explores complexity of human relationships in two plays

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two, what promise to be very interesting pieces of relatively recent American theatre are coming to the Royal Cultural Centre next Saturday, April 4 and Sunday April 5. Brought to Amman by the American Center in cooperation with the Royal Cultural Centre and the Royal Theatre Company, "Remember Them Kindly" and "The Gin Game" are being performed by the National Theatre Alliance, a non-profit association of North American Artists incorporated in the State of Arizona.

The first play "Remember Them Kindly" is a collage of scenes taken from classic American plays that deal with the nuclear family in all "diversity through America's two hundred year history." The play takes a look at the American family from the colonial to contemporary times through the eyes of such American dramatists as Lindsay and Crouse (Life with Father), Frank Gilroy (The Subject was Rosis), Peter Stone (1776), Lillian Hell-

European parliamentarians find out facts on Palestine problem

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A delegation of European legislators are scheduled to hold talks today with Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez to obtain first-hand information about the Palestine problem.

The 13-member delegation, representing both the European Parliament and national assemblies, Thursday held separate meetings with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Daudin.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Mr. Daudin briefed the delegation on the latest developments in the Middle East as well as Jordan's continued support for Palestinian refugees in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Petra quoted Mr. Daudin as urging the international community to shoulder its responsibilities towards assisting Palestinian refugees who have been evicted

from their homeland by the Israeli authorities.

He told the delegation that convening an international peace conference on the Middle East, based on U.N. resolutions 242 and 338, remained the only means towards solving the Palestine problem. The meeting was attended by the Ministry's Under Secretary Ahmad Qatamani and other officials, Petra said.

UNRWA Public Information Officer William Lee, who is accompanying the delegation on their visit to Jordan, said the parliamentarians "were very impressed with their meetings with both ministers."

The fact-finding tour, according to Mr. Lee, is being sponsored by the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation (PAEAC) in cooperation with UNRWA. Two members of the current delegation already visited the region last year on a similar mission within UNRWA's policy of bringing the plight of Palestinian refugees to the attention of the international community.

The group is expected to wind up its visit on Sunday.

Contractors discuss merger possibilities

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Contractors Association (JCA) has completed assessing the viability of establishing bases for setting up off-shore companies and merging other local institutions to overcome a projected scale down in the sector's activities in the coming years.

In the next development scheme, the volume of work will be reduced since the majority of the Kingdom's infrastructure will be completed by 1990. We have to prepare ourselves for the future," and this could only be attained through such mergers, JCA President Ali Abu Al Ragheb told the association's general assembly meeting on Friday.

The issuance of a defence order setting the basis for merging local contracting firms is expected in the coming 10 days and the step is seen as a means to create larger companies — with greater equipment and accumulated expertise — to eventually replace foreign contracting organisations working here. It will also develop these companies into more substantial institutions and will upgrade their managerial and financial skills to enable them face the tough market competition.

At present, 400 companies have registered within the JCA's classified categories (from 1-5) and official figures reveal that the total registered paid up capital of all classified contractors to date is JD 100 million.

Friday's gathering was the first general meeting since the election of the association's two-year council last March.

The 42 JCA general members who attended the gathering endorsed the association's 1986 budget and administrative report which included setting up JCA branches in Irbid and Karak, establishing a computer centre, studying the association's new internal charter — to be issued in October — and the follow-up on the JCA 1986 law. The JCA's 1986 budget amounted to JD 218,011.

Training schemes

Two main suggestions raised during the meeting centred on increasing the number of trainee engineers included in the association's training scheme and means for halting the fierce competition among local contractors to win tenders through undercutting.

Under JCA's present training scheme, 20 trained engineers are working for grade one, and grade two, two contracting firms which cover their total expenses and 10 other candidates are employed by fourth and fifth grade companies with the JCA and their employers sharing the cost of paying their salaries.

After discussing several op-

tions for finding more job opportunities for these young graduates, the assembly entrusted the JCA council to study alternative possibilities.

GUVS raises JD 790,437 for cancer centre

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan has to date raised JD 790,437 in contributions from individuals and organisations to help start work on the Amman Cancer Centre, according to a GUVS annual report released on Thursday.

The report said that at least JD 1 million was needed to start the first stage of the project and that a special technical team is now making ready to commence work on the centre during 1987.

The report also said that GUVS raised JD 50,000 worth of food supplies, furniture and clothes and JD 50,000 in cash from various organisations, banks

and companies and all this was distributed to 3,750 needy families around the country over the past year.

The report was read out to a general assembly meeting held at GUVS headquarters under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan. The minister voiced appreciation for the efforts of various voluntary and charitable societies in the country and said this work complements his ministry's endeavours to offer assistance and raise the standards of the less fortunate sectors of Jordanian society.

The report revealed GUVS'

budget for 1987 is JD 3,823,880 compared with 1986's budget of JD 3,068,473 and said that GUVS assistance to charitable societies in 1986 registered an increase of 50 per cent over that given in 1985.

The report detailed the different projects carried out in the country by GUVS during the past year and the different training courses and seminars organised for society members. These projects, the report said, totalled 155 and GUVS offered loans and assistance to needy university students totalling JD 62,500 and charitable societies on the East and West Banks.

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VIEW FROM AMMAN

By Dr. Kamel S. Abu Jaber

The education system: Effects on our society

OVER the past few weeks, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has been conducting a survey of our schools and other educational institutions. His aim is not only to reemphasise his personal interest in the process of education in Jordan and the need for improvements, qualitatively and quantitatively, but to generate serious rethinking concerning the entire operation from the physical facilities to the less tangible, though more lasting, more important effects on our society. The time is right and the call for an overall assessment and rethinking will certainly find a welcome response from the educational authorities on all levels including the educators themselves.

The content of education as well as the method by which it is imparted are of vital interest. And, if we have emphasized the negative effects of the rote system previously, it is because it lies at the heart of the problems facing our educational system in the long run. The rote system with its emphasis on memorisation, is an individual act expanding, for those who are more capable of memorisation, their individual capacity, and thus, by definition, deemphasising team work. And while a certain amount of memorisation is necessary and desirable, as is a certain measure of individuality, the fact cannot be denied that we carry both to the extreme. Often it turns not only to selfishness and disdain of others, but to the development of what the French call *incivisissime*, the lack of social consciousness. This is an historical moment in our life when what we most need is social cohesion and team work. The "I" becomes supreme.

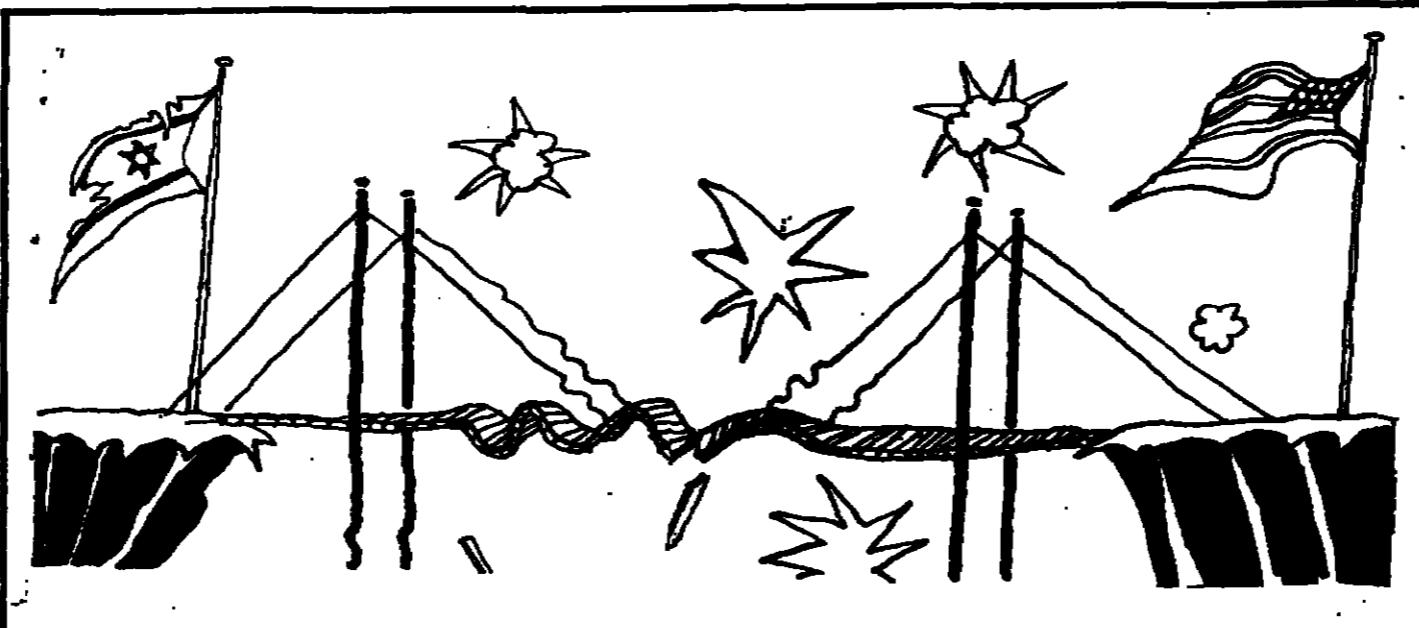
Modern life places as much responsibility on the educational process as on home upbringing. That is why the content of our system is of extreme importance and why it should be handled with tender care: We have to teach our youth to relate to themselves, their family, their immediate surroundings as well as their society. Abstract thinking which we emphasize is excellent for certain people at certain levels, and in certain areas and instances but can be, if as closely adhered to as it is now, harmful. What we teach, for instance, in our Arabic poetry memorisation classes, incidentally, they are called just that, memorisation, is not the love of poetry or its appreciation, though this may be the result for some who are gifted, but perhaps the opposite. Much of the required memorisation is not only devoid of social content, teaching as it does

boastfulness of self, harmful criticism of others, insincere extolling of those in high places for gainful purposes, but abstract thinking as well.

We need to teach appreciation, we need to teach how to do things, we need to teach team-thinking leading to team-work and we need to set free the imagination of our youth. Only thus can our society be better prepared to respond to the twenty-first century and we are, or should be teaching for that century. Presently, by the limits we place on the imagination of our youth, they learn to fear the unknown, since we teach mostly for the past, perhaps only partly for the present. And while we are doing that, the world around is passing us by. Our past is beautiful; it is more than that, and we should love and cherish and teach respect for it, but it should not be an idol for our worship. Homage is due our glorious past though the purpose of homage is to move forward not to be tethered, immobile. Our past will become more glorious when we are on our feet not on our belly, participating with contemporary civilisation, innovating and creating, contributing and adding.

As of now, we continue to stuff the mind of our youth with non-combustible data and continue to choke them with facts as if designed to give them the sense of motion without really moving. Unrelated information and facts that do not change are surely of some value, but how to use these facts and mastering them is infinitely more important.

U.S. insists on Israeli action in Pollard case before restoring trust



U.S. death in El Salvador raises new questions

By Carl Giacomo
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The first combat death of an American military advisor in El Salvador in a rebel attack that left at least 86 dead or wounded has brought the war there back into the spotlight and raised new questions about U.S. involvement.

The advisor, 27-year-old Sergeant Gregory Fronius, was killed March 31 in an attack that was the biggest assault in years by leftist rebels on a Salvadoran army base.

The guerrillas said as many as 600 were killed or wounded.

Salvadorean officials said 43 soldiers, including Fronius, and nine guerrillas were killed, with 35 soldiers wounded. They said the death toll could rise.

An intelligence specialist with the army special forces, Fronius died while defending himself in the vicinity of the regional intelligence centre at El Paraiso garrison, 25 miles north of the capital, San Salvador, according to the U.S. Defense Department.

A foreign policy advisor to a Democratic leader in Congress said the attack shows the Reagan administration foreign policy in Central America, despite claims of victory, leaves a lot to be desired.

"The war goes on and the guerrillas are obviously able to marshal substantial forces in the face of a super (Salvadorean) army and very sophisticated U.S. intelligence capability," said the advisor, who asked not to be identified.

But a State Department official, who also asked that his name be withheld, disagreed that the rebels showed new strength.

"They maintain the capability of doing this (attacking) from time to time (but) they can't do it with consistency," he said.

The United States has been a strong backer of El Salvador since President Reagan took office in 1981, providing more than \$500-million a year in military and economic aid.

At the start of his term, there were heated battles between Reagan and lawmakers who opposed both his penchant for military solutions and the Salvadoran government's tolerance of — and alleged participation in — right-wing death squads.

But after Jose Napoleon Duarte in 1984 became El Salvador's first democratically-elected president in 50 years, Congress joined Reagan in supporting the government. Often, El Salvador has been hailed here as a democracy success story.

In recent years, the focus of debate over U.S. Central America policy shifted almost exclusively to Nicaragua as Reagan

made support for contra rebels fighting the leftist Sandinistas in Managua the centerpiece of a worldwide campaign against what he viewed as Soviet expansionism.

The scandal over U.S. arms sales to Iran and diversion of profits to the contras has rocked Reagan's presidency and weakened support in Congress for the contra aid programme.

Whether Fronius' death will have the same effect — either on U.S. involvement in El Salvador or Nicaragua or both — is uncertain at this point, several U.S. analysts said.

The attack was a clear indication the war is escalating and there will be more bloodshed on the horizon," said a congressional aide. "The key question is how the American public will react to the American getting killed."

Congress, fearing the United States could be dragged into another Vietnam-type war, has long limited the number of U.S. military advisors in El Salvador to 55 and ordered that they stay out of combat.

A State Department official said that "no matter how cautious

you are, there are certain risks you assume."

But lawmakers are likely going to want to take a closer look at the kinds of risks the American forces are facing.

Another analyst, Segundo Mercado-Llorens of the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy, a Washington-based group critical of Reagan's policies, said the assault exposes the disarray of Duarte's increasingly fragile government.

But Senate Republican leader Robert Dole, a staunch Reagan ally, said Fronius' death "underscores the tragic toll of the war in Central America — a war being waged by Communist guerrillas whose inspiration, direction and support originates in Moscow and Havana and is channelled through Managua."

And he added: "This death also underscores one other fact: While the Congress of the United States debates and debates over the provision of assistance to the freedom fighters in Nicaragua, the massive aid that Moscow and Havana are shovelling into the region, with the help of the Sandinistas, continues to have deadly impact."

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also underscores one other fact: While the Congress of the United States debates and debates over the provision of assistance to the freedom fighters in Nicaragua, the massive aid that Moscow and Havana are shovelling into the region, with the help of the Sandinistas, continues to have deadly impact."

Nakasone, who has been more popular with ordinary voters than with many in his party, is seeing his public support erode, the analysts said.

They said Nakasone's critics have fresh ammunition with the yen's rise to record highs — making Japanese exports less competitive — and a U.S. threat last week to impose potentially crippling tariffs on Japanese electronic goods in retaliation for Japan's alleged violation of a microchip trade pact.

Apparently the special relationship between Reagan and Nakasone hasn't worked effectively, which makes the Japanese people doubt Nakasone's credibility," said Rei Shiratori, director of the Institute for Political Studies in Japan.

The cumulative impact of the sales tax issue, the yen rise and increasing trade friction could mean serious losses for the ruling party in the April 11 and 26 local elections, analysts said.

"If the elections go against the LDP, Nakasone may have to resign early," Shiratori said.

Nakasone still has a chance to soothe U.S. tempers before or during a week-long Washington visit from April 29, some analysts said.

By Michael Batié
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Israel must bring to book all those involved in the Pollard spy case before it dispels completely the mistrust it has generated in the United States, U.S. officials say.

The officials, who declined to be identified, told Reuters the resignation from the command of a big Israeli air base of Colonel Avienn Sella, the man who recruited Jonathan Pollard, was a step in the right direction.

But the officials said Sella had recruited Pollard and had "handed him over to the professionals," namely veteran spymaster Rafi Eitan. Eitan was the next obvious target of Israeli investigations.

He was appointed chairman of giant state-owned Israel Chemicals Company after the scandal broke, in another move that looked in Washington like a reward.

Eitan was the manager of the show and his could be the next shoe to drop and who knows where it could end. We all know he had a very powerful sponsor," said one official.

The official declined to name Eitan's sponsor, reflecting reluctance to discuss a subject that has many senior U.S. officials here feeling deeply hurt that a friend as close as Israel could spy on Washington and then appear reluctant to apologize.

But private analysts said everyone in Israel knew Eitan was a protege of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"It's inconceivable that he was

acting without authority from the highest levels, at least the (army) chief of staff and probably the minister of defence," said Judith Kipper of the Brookings Institution.

"I think what is making people here so mad is that they're stonewalling. If they'd say, 'Well, we got caught, we shouldn't have done it and we apologize,' I'm sure everyone would say, 'O.K.," she said.

"After all, everybody does it. Their problem is that they got caught, not that they did it."

The officials privately expressed some scepticism over whether the Israeli investigations would succeed in finding the truth, in part because they lacked the legal powers to oblige officials to give testimony.

But Kipper, a leading Middle East analyst, was willing to give Israel the benefit of the doubt. "They've done thorough investigations before and we have no reason to think they won't do the same again," she said.

Jim Phillips, top Middle East analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank reputed to have considerable influence at the White House, said the effect of the scandal would be most noticeable in Congress.

"It does affect the climate on Capitol Hill. People are less likely to push real hard on controversial things," he said.

Israel this year will get more than \$3 billion in U.S. aid. No one believes that will be affected. Some officials said the most lasting effect of the affair could be on American Jews, many of whose leaders have gone to Israel to remonstrate with the government.

"The fact is they have made the Jewish community (in the United States) vulnerable," said one official in reference to the often asked question of where a Jew's first loyalty lies.

"If they had only recruited a non-Jewish American, things wouldn't be half so bad," he said.

XEROX IN JORDAN

Keeping You In The Picture



AMMAN — One of the world's top ranked companies, Xerox Corporation — the leading name in photo-copying and office systems — which introduced the world's first plain paper copier more than twenty five years ago, has just been launched in Jordan by Sukhtian & Yahya Electronics Company. The launch was attended by His Excellency The Minister Of Communications, Mr. Muhyee Al Deen Al Husseini, accompanied by a large number of senior officials from both Public and Private Sectors as well as the Diplomatic Circle.

The guests were received by the General Manager Mr. Fayed El-Yahya, The President of Xerox Middle East and North Africa Operations Mr. Robert E. Trumper praised in his opening speech, "The remarkable leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and the stable political and economic progress achieved by his government in Jordan."

The guests were very impressed with both the high quality and large range of Xerox equipment on display, including photo-copiers, facsimile machines, electronic typewriters and the new plain paper engineering drawing copier.

The Xerox process (Xerography) inspired the world copier industry which is currently estimated at being worth over \$27 billion, and it would be hard to imagine an office without a photo-copier, such was the effect of Xerox's reputation for excellence, reliability, productivity and customer satisfaction continues. Now, Xerox is set to bring that same reputation to the Jordanian market-place, by introducing state-of-the-art equipment supported by highly trained service personnel. Xerox is one of the few companies that can quote on an actual cost-per-copy basis to give customers greater budgeting control over their expenditure.

Xerox's commitment to provide outstanding sales and service support, bring the office of tomorrow, to the customer, today.

The Xerox office and showroom are located at the Sukhtian & Yahya Electronics Company, Gardens Street, P.O. Box 925301 — Amman. Tel. 605473.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Arab leaders' responsibility

IT is natural for any Arab citizen to welcome the current intensive efforts for ending differences among Arab states and bolstering solidarity among them. King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz referred to these efforts during his meeting with Arab journalists and intellectuals in London on Thursday. The differences which King Fahd referred to exist only among leaders of Arab countries and not among the Arab people themselves. It is to be noted that Arab masses everywhere have been showing increasing disappointment with the continuation of these differences and the lack of coordination among leaders of Arab countries who should be working in harmony to serve their people and safeguard the national rights of the Arab Nation. These Arab leaders should respond favourably to the wishes of the Arab masses and take speedy action for removing all obstacles in the way of Arab solidarity. The time factor is important and should be duly exploited by these leaders because their Arab peoples continue to face a common enemy backed by formidable allies who are bent on directing aggression on the Arabs and keeping them as divided as ever. What is needed now is complete harmony and joint action on the part of the Arab Nation and an initiative for resolving problems in the Arab region. Removing Arab differences among Arab countries could be the first step which should be followed by a strong joint action. Any shirking of responsibility on the part of Arab leaders is bound to be detrimental to the Arab Nation's interests and the future of the Arab World.

Al Dustour: Camps tragedy continues

THE residents of the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut are still living through a tragedy imposed on them by the siege of their camps and the continued shelling of their homes. The Shi'ite Amal Movement which has been imposing the siege is continuing to bombard the ruined homes of the camps and denying their innocent residents the basic needs of life. Amal is finding all sorts of pretexts for prolonging the suffering of the Palestinian people by preventing medical and other relief supplies from entering the camps despite appeals from different circles and international organisations. Amal is using the residents in the camp as a weapon for diplomatic barter in violation of all international principles and norms and human rights. The starving of the innocent residents of the camps is a crime that should be stopped by world nations and organisations. Innocent people, mostly children and women, are being left to die of hunger or by snipers bullets for the sake of satisfying the desires of the leaders of the Amal Movement. It goes without saying that the only beneficiary of this tragedy is Israel and its allies. For this reason, we welcome any move by the Arab countries to end the fighting around the camps and lift the siege that has caused the death of thousands of people. We appeal to Arab foreign ministers, who meet on Saturday, to take speedy action to ensure an end to the bloodshed.

Sawt Al Shaab: King continues peace mission

JORDAN, led by King Hussein is shortly embarking on a new diplomatic offensive in the Arab and European countries with the purpose of bringing peace closer to the Middle East region. King Hussein will continue an endeavour of explaining the Arab World's views with regard to peace, and will continue to gather support for the idea of an international conference to end the Arab-Israeli conflict, and to establish a lasting peace. King Hussein has already visited Britain, Italy and France, and his tour has resulted in further European support for the Arab causes in general and the idea of an international conference in particular. The King's coming tour will take a similar line because Jordan is keen on ending the Middle East issue and establishing genuine peace. Jordan is also keen on ending the Gulf war and the civil strife in Lebanon. All these issues will be on the agenda of the King's talks in different countries he intends to visit. Europe has already issued a declaration in Brussels voicing support for an international conference that would end the Middle East issue and Arabs and Europeans should promote their dialogue to counter U.S.-Israeli moves in the opposite direction.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Facing Israeli propaganda

THE Israeli authorities are employing its mass media to mislead the Arabs into believing that the Soviet leadership plans to carry out a drastic change in its policy towards Soviet Jews. These media are now propagating rumours that the Soviet Union will allow large numbers of Jews to emigrate to Israel. This propaganda campaign should be handled with great caution by the Arab countries especially as they realise that the Soviets are not in reality planning such action and that Moscow continues to refuse any pre-conditions for the Soviet Union's participation in the proposed international conference. The Arab countries will have to be aware of Israel's evil intentions in this respect and realise that Israel is bent on launching such media campaigns to damage Arab-Soviet relations. At the same time the Arabs should make speedy contacts with the Soviet Union in order to ensure that such rumours are baseless and urge Moscow to declare openly that Israeli propaganda campaigns will not bring about any change in Moscow's stand vis-a-vis Middle East issues.

Al Dustour: Israel pressures the Soviets

AS diplomatic efforts continue to overcome obstacles in the way of the proposed international Middle East peace conference Israel and the Zionist movement have resorted to blackmailing certain international parties to the conference including the Soviet Union. Israel is now placing conditions for Moscow's participation in such a conference. It is demanding that the Soviet Union resume diplomatic relations with Israel and open the door for Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel. A Zionist leader has just declared that thousands of Soviet Jews will be allowed to leave for Israel, in a bid to place pressure on Moscow and force it to change its position with regard to the international conference. Of course the Soviet Union cannot sacrifice its friendly ties with the Arabs for the sake of pleasing Israel and for this reason we regard this Zionist declaration as a mere blackmail that will never achieve any result for the Jewish state. What refutes such claims is the fact that 350,000 Jews have left Israel for good after being frustrated with life in Israel. Still, we believe that the Israelis will pursue their game and their propaganda campaign for the sake of damaging Arab-Soviet relations.

Joe in 1980

Ancient adobe offers hope for housing crisis

My Mercer Cross
National Geographic

SKY CITY, New Mexico — Brick by adobe brick, Acoma Indian workmen are rebuilding 400-year-old apartments in their ancestral pueblo atop an isolated 367-foot mesa.

Since the work began in 1982, about 100 units have been completed, says supervisor Dennis Vallo. He hopes the restored two- and three-storey buildings will induce more Acoma to return to Sky City.

All roots of the world Acoma denote "a place that always was," writes historian Alan Minge. The people claim that their mesa-top home about 60 miles west of Albuquerque is the oldest continuously inhabited city in the United States. Minge says they've been there for at least 1,000 years — possibly much longer — and archaeologists agree that Acoma Pueblo has been occupied at least since A.D. 1200.

Learned from Spanish

The enduring technique of making adobe bricks in molds was introduced to the Acoma by Spanish conquistadores in the mid-1500s. Only 50 or so Acoma now live year-round in the pueblo. Their determination to preserve their ancient traditions means that they lack such amenities as electricity and running water.

Their adviser on the restoration is a white man from Albuquerque, Paul Graham McHenry Jr., an architect and builder who specializes in adobe construction and sees adobe as a solution to many of the Third World's increasingly urgent housing problems.

"The worldwide energy crisis, particularly in developing nations, must lead to the utilisation of earth as a building material to meet ever-increasing needs," McHenry wrote in a paper presented in Ankara, Turkey, last summer. "We have no other choice."

McHenry, author of several books on adobe and other earthen buildings, notes that more than half of the world's people

live in houses made of earth. He traces their early development to the Middle East, where he says such structures were built as early as 800 B.C. in the Tigris-Euphrates Valley.

He is a member of the Advisory Council of the International Foundation for Earth Construction, a three-year-old organisation committed to helping solve global housing problems. An estimated 800 million units are needed to house the world's poor.

Foundation president is Eric Carlson of Closter, N.J., former chief of housing for the United Nations. "Our main interest," he says, "is in how to transfer some of this relatively simple technology to countries where there are serious housing problems."

The U.N. General Assembly has designated 1987 the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. The foundation's activities this year will be linked to that theme.

Examples worldwide

The well-travelled Carlson lists widespread examples of earthen buildings: Grenoble, France, site of active training and research in such construction; China, where more than 30 million people dwell in caves; Colombia, where volcanic soil is proving to be an ideal material for pressed brick; and numerous other areas.

Carlson pegs much of his hope to a 55-year-old process, developed in California, to mass-produce "stabilized" bricks, waterproof and erosion-resistant, by mixing mud with an asphalt emulsion. Building with earth "has the potential for catching on," he says.

McHenry views it as "an uphill battle," partly because of adobe's "split image of either poverty or great affluence."

Traditionally, earthen buildings have provided shelter for the world's neediest people. In the southwestern United States, adobe provided an inexpensive answer to housing needs for generations. Only in the past few decades has it become, in Carlson's words, a "chic and aesthetic building material."

Holding an adobe brick, Dennis Vallo stands next to one of the 400-year-old apartments being rebuilt at Sky City, N.M., ancient pueblo home of the Acoma Indians. Although adobe is one of the oldest building materials, dating back 10,000 years, it still houses more than half of the world's people.

President Reagan lives in an old adobe house, stucco-faced and white-painted, when he goes home to Rancho Cielo in California. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor used to live in an adobe house in Phoenix.

McHenry and his sons design and build everything from expensive adobe homes to shopping centres in the Albuquerque area. Adobe dominates many of the richest suburbs in New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

But McHenry emphasizes its simplicity and universality. With very little experience and equipment, anyone can make his own bricks. If he has sufficient skill and diligence, he can build a comfortable home. Thick adobe walls ensure coolness in the summer and warmth in the winter. And they are almost soundproof.

Do-it-yourself adobe

In a homemade adobe house in

the well-travelled Carlson lists widespread examples of earthen buildings: Grenoble, France, site of active training and research in such construction; China, where more than 30 million people dwell in caves; Colombia, where volcanic soil is proving to be an ideal material for pressed brick; and numerous other areas.

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Holding an adobe brick, Dennis Vallo stands next to one of the 400-year-old apartments being rebuilt at Sky City, N.M., ancient pueblo home of the Acoma Indians. Although adobe is one of the oldest building materials, dating back 10,000 years, it still houses more than half of the world's people.

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But McHenry emphasizes its simplicity and universality. With very little experience and equipment, anyone can make his own bricks. If he has sufficient skill and diligence, he can build a comfortable home. Thick adobe walls ensure coolness in the summer and warmth in the winter. And they are almost soundproof.

Do-it-yourself adobe

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1000 walk for charity

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A melange of people of different ages, sizes and nationalities crowded onto the grounds of the Plaza Hotel an hour and a half before the scheduled start of the Amman leg of the Charity March across Jordan.

Group leaders struggled through the throngs of people to reach the registration tables in order to turn in their group sponsorship sheet forms. Volunteers and members of the Society for the Care of Neurological Patients, tried franticly to keep the papers of the 45 groups organised and to calculate an estimate of the amount raised.

Organisers, speaking through loudspeakers, called out the order of departure, each group leaving a few minutes apart, beginning at 9:00.

Drums rolled and bagpipes played as the three main walkers — Vicken Dakessian, 26, Ali Pharoan, 28, and Halim Abu Rahmeh, 29 — led an estimated 1000 walkers through the Amman stage. "This large a turnout was not expected, but was very welcome," said Her Royal Highness Princess Majida, head of the Princess Majida, head of the

Many families joined in, with small children riding on their fathers' shoulders or pushed in baby carriages. Nuns donned their tennis shoes, while schoolchildren carried radios blaring music to entertain the walkers.

Others were oblivious to the commotion around them as they slipped into the bliss of their own world, thanks to their portable 'Walkman'. Even dogs were involved as they were taken for an extra long walk.

Off to a brisk start, the walkers crowded the streets, taking up one lane on the road from the Plaza Hotel to the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th Circles. However, the crowds thinned out on the road to the Gateway Hotel.

Walkers were accompanied the entire distance by an ambulance, police, and a bus, from Al Ahliyah girls school, used to ferry back tired participants. Every three kilometres, a station was set up, offering chips and peanuts, provided by the Plaza Hotel, and water, provided by Safa. Some of the last walkers reached the stations after they had run out of supplies.

Two of the stragglers relayed their experiences to the Jordan Times. Reem and Dana, after covering 17 kilometres, began feeling pangs of hunger, which increased markedly by as they passed two stations, only to find there was no food. "It was 2:00 and we began hallucinating; a chubby child which appeared in front of us began to look appetizing. Like a miracle, a van with pack lunches came and asked us if we wanted food," they said, laughing.

All the walkers were provided lunches from Plaza Hotel and pizza from Pizza Hut at the 24 kilometre station. At this point, participants rested under tents which were set up on Mr. Hamzeh's farm, off of the Madaba exit on Airport Road. Although 80 per cent of the participants, according to Reem Najjar one of the coordinators of the walk, made it to this point, a large number dropped out thereafter.

The Spanish ambassador, Mr. Emilio Menendez del Valle explained why he did not stop. "If I did, I was afraid I would feel so tired that I would not continue." Apparently, many proved Mr. Del Valle's theory.

Hiyam Mansour was one who

did not stop for lunch either, and arrived at the Gateway Hotel at 2:05, the first of the walkers. Two hours earlier at 11:38, the first runner of the Hash House Harriers, Manfred Cizel arrived. He covered the distance in 2 hours, 58 minutes; six other runners of the Harriers arrived before 12:30.

Abdel Noor, 14 years old, was the first child to finish the 37-kilometres, "not feeling too tired"; Victor Gibran Petrol, a five-year-old, finished an hour after him at 3:35. By around 6:00 p.m., the last of the estimated 200 finishers came in.

The primary motivations for most walkers who talked to the Jordan Times was for both charity and exercise. One woman would not even stop after medics in the ambulance bandaged both her feet. Walking without shoes, she said: "This is more comfortable."

High spirits and favourable weather was present throughout the walk. Friends and family members encouraged walkers.

Princess Majida noted at the finish: "Some of the walkers looked as though they were about to collapse but they did not stop."

A thirteen-year-old from the Queen Alia Centre for the Deaf, Sana'a, led by her sister, managed to complete 24 kilometres.

His Royal Highness Prince Ra's said he joined the walk to support the society both morally and financially. Other royal family members who participated were: Their Royal Highnesses Princes Hamzeh and Hashem, and Princesses Haya, Iman and Raya (in a baby carriage).

All participants noted the importance of people helping people. As one walker Olgia put it: "Walking makes me feel great, but contributing to a good cause makes me feel wonderful."

Although the walk ended for most on Friday, Vicken and Aif still have 301 kilometres ahead of them. At Qatrani, they will be rejoined by Halim.

Spanish season moves to climax

LONDON (R) — Real Madrid's chances of clinching the European Cup and Spanish League title received a setback when striker Emilio Butragueno was injured in the European Championship qualifying win over Austria.

Butragueno twisted his left

ankle after a tackle from Australian captain Bruno Pezzey in the first minute of the 3-2 victory in Vienna and will miss Real's game today at Espanol, the only side unbeaten at home this season.

More importantly, he is extremely doubtful for the European Cup semifinal first leg next

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- Preparation courses for the exams at Sorbonne University (Paris)
- Arabic language courses for foreigners
- Computer courses
- Music courses (Piano, Guitar, German Flute, Clarinet...)
- Handicraft course (flower making, silk painting, ceramics).

The registration will last on Sunday 5 April 1987 and the courses will start on Monday 6 April 1987.

For information please contact the library of the Centre, telephone 636445.

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European championship roundup

Claesen scores 3; England, Spain win

LONDON (AP) — Nico Claesen, who cannot command a regular place in Tottenham Hotspur's English First Division soccer side, bagged three goals as World Cup semifinalist Belgium tipped Scotland 4-1 in their European Championship qualifying game.

Claesen's club-mate Chris Waddle, one of three Tottenham players in England's midfield against Northern Ireland, also was on the mark as the Group Four favourite maintained its supremacy over its neighbour with a 2-0 victory in Belfast.

Liverpool's goal-grabber Ian Rush, who is bound four Italy's Juventus next season, notched Wales' first goal in a 4-0 victory over Finland in Group Six, while Spain posted a 3-2 victory over Austria in Vienna and Bulgaria edged the Irish Republic 2-1 in another Group Seven game on Wednesday night.

Claesen scored in the eighth, 55th and 85th minutes and assisted in Frankie Vercauteren's 75th minute strike as Scotland was swept aside in Anderlecht's Constant Vanden Stock Stadium in Brussels.

It was the first time a British team had returned to the Belgian capital since the 1985 Heysel Stadium tragedy in which 39 people died as a result of a riot caused mainly by English fans at the Liverpool-Juventus European Champions' Cup final.

A small number of Scotland's "Tartan Army" of fans made it to

the game but no incidents were reported. All they had to cheer was Paul McStay's 13th minute equalising header.

Claesen, who has spent much of the season on the Tottenham substitute's bench, said he was "supermotivated" for the game after being repeatedly left off the Tottenham side.

"I was very glad I again was able to prove I can play soccer," the striker said.

Waddle scored England's second goal three minutes before half time as the Group Four favourite cantered to victory over Northern Ireland at Windsor Park.

The result meant the home side has not scored against England for seven years. Northern Ireland also remained goalless in three Group Four games and England took its goal tally from its three victories to 7-0.

England's captain, Bryan Robson, provided proof he is returning to his best form after a two-year injury nightmare. The 29-year-old midfielder headed England's first goal in the 19th minute and showed much of his old confidence and organising ability.

The match began amid reports of a car bomb explosion near the ground and England's manager, Bobby Robson (no relation), cut short his post-match news conference after being repeatedly questioned about the incident.

"I'm a football (soccer) manager, not a bomb disposal expert," the manager snapped.

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A late penalty by Lachezar

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Friday.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| One sterling | 1.6085/95 | U.S. dollars |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.3060/65 | Canadian dollar |
| | 1.8158/65 | West German marks |
| | 2.0490/0500 | Dutch guilders |
| | 1.5145/55 | Swiss francs |
| | 37.58/61 | Belgian francs |
| | 6.0350/0400 | French francs |
| | 1293/1294 | Italian lire |
| | 146.00/10 | Japanese yen |
| | 6.3330/3400 | Swedish crowns |
| | 6.8100/50 | Norwegian crowns |
| | 6.8600/50 | Danish crowns |
| One ounce of gold | 418.30/80 | U.S. dollars |

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares were near their lows late in the session as continuing fears of a possible trade war with Japan undermined sentiment. By 1412 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 35.4 to 1,952.3 after a midafternoon low of 1,951.2.

Friday's account had triggered profit-taking as did the end of fiscal year but the main worry was the U.K.'s statement on Thursday that it was prepared to retaliate against Japanese banking and insurance firms over the U.K./Japan trade imbalance.

Britain said it would use tough powers against Japanese institutions on the grounds that similar U.K. firms do not enjoy the same access to Japan's financial markets.

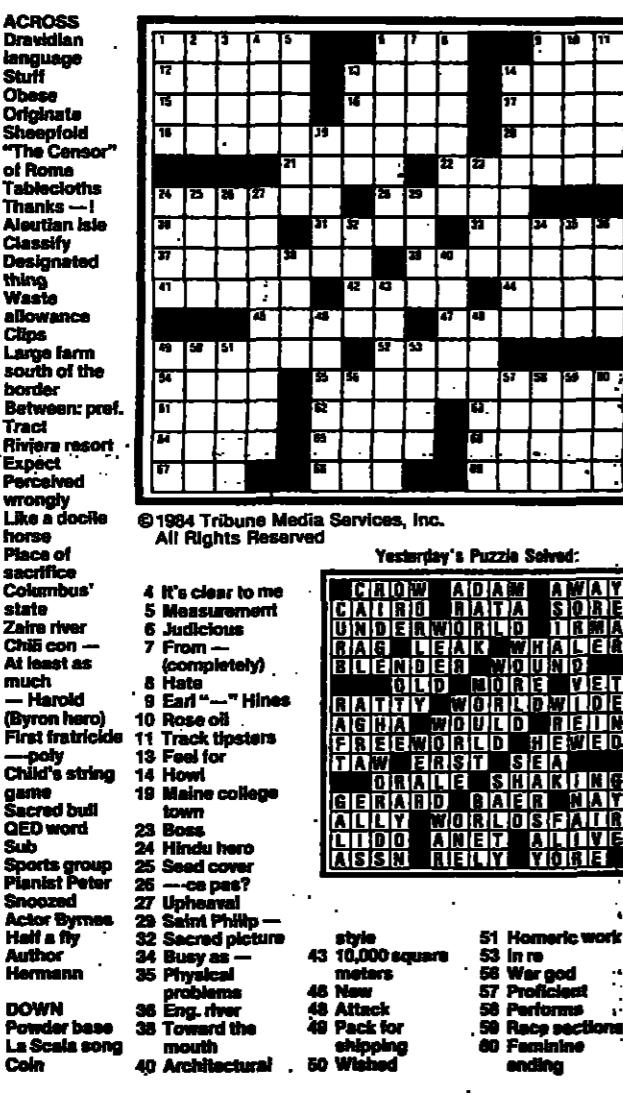
The FTSE 100 index has come down by around 96 points since last Friday's close, but a shakeout was seen as almost inevitable after the sharp gains seen since the new year.

Dealers said, however, that while a trade war with Japan would do major damage to British markets many operators are doubtful that either the U.K. or the Japanese governments will allow such a conflict to break out.

Cable and Wireless, which dealers said is at the eye of the current Japanese trade storm, was down 5p at 371. Cable is currently having difficulties in obtaining a major stake in a new Japanese telecommunications company.

THE Daily Crossword

By Fred Toole



YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Follow your hunches in accomplishing and achieving the aims that most impel you forward. Be wary of upsetting aspects that can cause intermittent problems.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An early start at shopping and marketing is wise, since later situations arise that could be upsetting.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have an opportunity to get your surroundings improved. Get your budget in shape for a greater abundance.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are full of ambition and can accomplish a good deal. Your friends may be too busy to help you now.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study your personal wishes and plan how to gain them quickly. Steer clear of an upset partner.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Contact as many friends as you can and make plans for recreation. Go after some personal aim and get it.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Focus your thoughts on public affairs, even though you have other problems to take care of. They are soon solved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have a fine idea to put into operation, but soon a newcomer can deter your progress.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can make fine plans with your mate today, but later you may find it hard to get rid of a distraction.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Contact a clever person who can be helpful to you. Don't take any risks while driving.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make a constructive plan for the day and follow through without making any changes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make arrangements for recreation. You may be tempted to change the schedule, but don't.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study the situation at home and permit kin to settle their own problems. Steer clear of arguments.

U.N. official warns of economic hardships facing West Asians

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — A U.N. official has warned here that the difficult and complicated economic conditions facing West Asian nations could impede their development.

Dr. Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi, executive secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) was speaking at the opening of the agency's 14th annual meeting.

He said such a situation,

fraught with political and economic changes, necessitated a review of development strategies and priorities in the region and constituted a challenge to the U.N. body in extending aid to its member countries.

The expert-level meeting is to be followed later in the week by a ministerial session on issues of importance to West Asia, including the economic impact of workers returning to labour-exporting countries in their region.

Delegates will also consider a draft medium-term plan for 1990-95, the financial status of ESCWA programmes, its activities in supporting economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and its regional advisory services.

In addition to ministers from ESCWA member states, the conference is being attended by representatives of Arab regional organisations, non-governmental bodies and U.N. agencies.

First Saudi insurance firm abides by Islamic teachings

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (AP) — It may seem strange in arid Saudi Arabia, but flood damages are expected to be the most frequent cause for claims against the kingdom's first national insurance company, a newspaper reported Thursday.

Contractors risk damage to machinery from rain," Mr.

Mousa Al Rubaian, general manager of the National Company for Cooperative Insurance (NCCI), told the English-language newspaper Arab News.

"And if the contractors are in the wadis, the flash floods are severe," he told the Saudi newspaper. Wadis are desert valleys that can turn into torrents when it rains.

Construction activities abound in the oil-rich kingdom, where petrodollars are funnelled into diversified economic and social development programmes.

"Fires are the second-worst," he said.

"But because Saudis usually don't go to court for damages as the litigious Americans do, insurance rates in the kingdom are one of the lowest in the world," he said.

The NCCI, which began operations late last year, is the kingdom's first official insurance firm and its strength lies in the fact it

will write Islamic insurance.

Sheikh Al Rubaian, in an interview with the AP, cited rulings by the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference council on religious edicts, which has said that insurance can be considered Islamic. Life insurance is not acceptable, however.

Islamic scholars say that if insurance simply seeks to avoid the consequences of God's will, then it is un-Islamic. Life insurance falls under this category.

If instead, it seeks simply to spread the risk of disaster to make it more bearable, then it is permissible because it does not seek to avoid the consequences of God's actions.

Sheikh Al Rubaian said NCCI's insurance system is Islamic because of the cooperative sharing of risk by policyholders.

"This is close to mutual support, and is acceptable to our senior ulema" or Islamic scholars, he said.

The new firm, formally

approved by the ministry of commerce last month, is located at the Riyadh headquarters of Saudi Investment Bank. It will open offices in the Red Sea port of Jeddah and the Eastern Province capital of Dammam by the end of the year.

The company, which has authorised capital up to 500 million riyals (\$133 million), has taken an increase in capital up to 250 million riyals (\$66.6 million), Sheikh Al Rubaian said.

The company is owned 50 per cent by the Public Investment Fund, 25 per cent by the General Organisation for Social Insurance and 25 per cent by the Retirement Pension Agency, all government agencies.

The kingdom's insurance market is large and crowded with many firms, but NCCI is the first national firm. They compete for an estimated \$300 million to \$1 billion worth of business a year.

The company hopes to gain five per cent of the market in its first year and 10 per cent in the second year.

U.S. banks raise interest rates

NEW YORK (AP) — Major U.S. commercial banks are raising their prime lending rates in response to broad financial pressures that signal interest rates have bottomed out for the near term on loans, analysts said Thursday.

Kuwaiti interest in investment projects in Egypt grew after Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's participation in an Islamic summit conference in Kuwait in January, ending officially an eight-year Arab boycott of

Egypt.

Most of the Arab countries severed relations with Cairo after the late president Anwar Sadat signed a U.S.-sponsored peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

ing agreement will be completed this year," said Mr. A.W. Clausen, BankAmerica chairman and chief executive. "For the interim period, however, we concluded that the responsible procedure would be to record income only as we receive payments on these loans."

Banks generally place loans on a non-accrual, or cash, basis when payments fall delinquent for 90 days or longer. When that happens, payments are recorded as they are actually received, rather than when they are due. Thus the three companies will have to subtract from their first-quarter earnings interest previously recorded but not actually received.

Although the 90 days has not yet expired for much of the credit covered by Thursday's announcements, the banks said there was a possibility the time limit would be reached before Brazil renegotiated a debt refinancing with the banks.

Negotiations are to resume in New York on April 10, the committee representing creditor banks worldwide said Wednesday.

The banks' moves were expected to have the most severe impact on BankAmerica, which last year had a net loss of \$518 million. Mr. Clausen has said BankAmerica would post an operating profit this year, and still expected to do so.

reduces the returns on dollar-denominated assets for foreign investors, who then seek to offset the drop with higher rates from banks that borrow billions in the global money markets.

"This (prime increase) is not necessarily a judgment by major banks that rates are going to go up on a sustained basis," said Mr. William Sullivan, director of money market research for Dean Witter Reynolds Inc. "It's more of a recognition of the reality of rising rates" caused by the recent instability of the dollar.

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The major pressures to boost the prime rate come from prospects of higher inflation and from the rise in short-term interest rates over the past several months, which has increased the banks' cost of borrowing in the money markets.

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The model 30 is aimed principally at the educational market, which is a stronghold of the number of two PC maker, Apple Computer Company. With the Super-Fast 30, IBM hopes to win customers among major corporations.

Last year IBM lost an estimated 20 per cent of its shares of the PC market as PC revenues declined 17 per cent, to \$4.3 billion. Some 350 companies worldwide have copied IBM's circuitry and introduced their own low-cost PCs.

The 80386 chip can process 32 bits of information at once. The previous most powerful chip, the Intel 80286, processes 16 bits at once.

Prices of the new IBM machines range from \$1,695 for the 80386-based model 30, to \$10,995 for the top-of-the-line model 80.

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THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"The ad said you'd lose pounds and inches overnight!"

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Uncramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PADAT

TARFD

ROBRAW

CYOUTH

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: HE

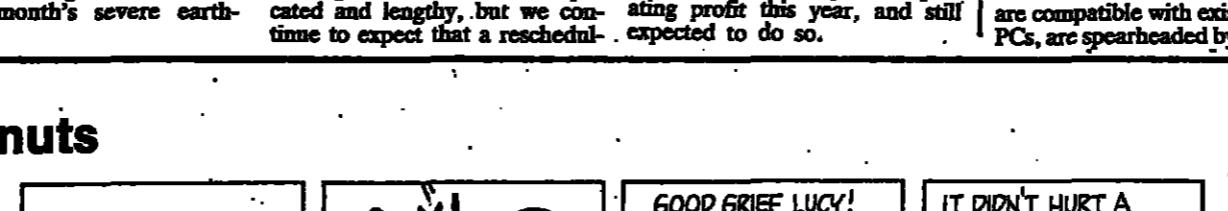
THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: LINEN HAVOC QUANT INFIRM

Answer: What the justice of the peace charged for uniting them in marriage — THE "UNION" RATE

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Reagan suffers defeat in Congress over highway bill

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has suffered an embarrassing defeat in Congress over a highway funding bill despite his last-minute personal visit to the legislative chamber seeking support from fellow Republicans.

Mr. Reagan spent 90 minutes with Senate Republicans Thursday, asking them to uphold his veto of the highway bill, which included a provision to meet a popular demand of increasing the speed limit on some rural highways to 65 mph from 55 (104 kph from 88).

But shortly after Mr. Reagan returned to the White House, 13 of the Republicans deserted him and joined all 54 Senate Democrats in voting 67-33 — exactly the two-thirds majority needed — to quash his veto of the \$88-billion bill and thus pass the legislation into law.

The vote had been touted as an indicator of how Mr. Reagan's last 21 months in office will go. But leading Democrats said after the vote they thought it would have no lasting effect.

The House of Representatives voted to override by 350-73 on Tuesday.

In a White House statement, Mr. Reagan said: "I am deeply disappointed by the vote. I knew in advance that the battle would be tough and the odds were long. But we cannot retreat from our commitment to a responsible budget."

Zimbabwe parliament suspends Ian Smith

HARARE (R) — Ian Smith, who led Rhodesia's white settlers through 15 years of resistance to black rule, has been suspended from independent Zimbabwe's parliament for a year for remarks opposing economic sanctions against South Africa.

In an unprecedented move — no member has been thrown out from the house for more than a few days — parliament voted 38-10 Thursday to approve the government-sponsored motion.

One cabinet minister branded Mr. Smith's remarks "disloyal and treasonable."

Mr. Smith, who in 1965 declared colonial Rhodesia's unilateral independence from Britain and defied the world for the next 15 years, angered the government when, on Feb. 10, he urged white South Africans to unite and defeat sanctions aimed

All trapped Canadian miners brought to surface

MURDOCHVILLE, Quebec (R) — Some 44 miners trapped underground for almost 24 hours in a copper mine fire that killed one person were brought safely to the surface, a company spokesman said.

"Everyone is now on the surface. Everyone is out," company spokesman Len Marquis told Reuters.

The first of the trapped miners to be taken out was a group of 17 who had been caught at the 2300 feet (770 metres) level of the mine, 700 kilometres east of Quebec City.

An hour later the final 27 miners were brought to the surface.

Miner's wives who had spent a tense, daylong vigil at the local union hall embraced their husbands as they stepped smiling.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ORIENTAL DUCK

Both vulnerable South deals

NORTH
♦ A J 3
♦ Void
♦ Q 8 6 5 2
♦ A K J 9 4
WEST
♦ 10 9 8 7
♦ K 10 8 5
♦ A 10 3
♦ 10 8
EAST
♦ Q 9 4 3 2
♦ K J 9 7 4
♦ Q 9 6
SOUTH
♦ K Q 6 5 4 2
♦ A Q 7 6
♦ Void
♦ 7 3 2

The bidding:

South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 6 ♦ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♦

If your bridge cruise takes you to Japan, drop in at one of the local bridge clubs. The hospitality is among the best in the world and the standard of play surprisingly high. In 1985, for the first time, a Japanese team won the Far East Bridge Championship.

When this hand was dealt at a rubber bridge game in Japan, North-South reached six spades via the auction shown. North's jump to slam is something of a shot

leadership. If no more shoes (damaging information) drop on Iran, he is clearly out of the woods, and all of us recognise that, and welcome that," Sen. Kennedy said in a statement.

White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater said Mr. Reagan wanted to show he intended to fight for the rest of his 21-month term, adding: "There will be no lame duckism as far as he's concerned."

Mr. Reagan's Republican supporters said before the second vote the outcome would determine whether the president could recapture some of his political strength following the battering of the Iran arms scandal, or leave him with little clout left in his last two years of office.

It was the second time in two tries this year that Congress has overridden a veto by Mr. Reagan and the ninth time in Reagan's six years as president. The first veto override this year came on a water and sewer projects bill.

Mr. Reagan vetoed the bill last Friday, calling it a budget buster loaded with special interest "pork barrel" projects.

Supporters of the bill said the projects were needed and 800,000 construction workers would lose their jobs unless the funds were released soon. Republicans who voted for the bill said they were putting the interests of their states ahead of loyalty to Mr. Reagan.

"This isn't going to make or break the president. There'll be other vetoes," he said. Massachusetts Democrat Edward Kennedy made a similar comment.

"President Reagan has nothing to be concerned about in terms of the effect of this vote on his

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Moscow stages 3rd nuclear test this year

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Friday conducted its third nuclear test since late February, when it ended an 18-month freeze which the United States had refused to join.

The Soviet News Agency TASS said the underground blast was detonated at 0120 GMT at the test site near Semipalatinsk in the Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan "with a view to perfecting military technology."

The yield of the blast was between 20 and 150 kilotonnes, and therefore within the limits of the 1974 U.S.-Soviet threshold test ban treaty which both sides say they are observing, although it remains unratified.

The treaty restricts underground explosions to 150 kilotonnes, the equivalent of 150,000 tonnes of dynamite.

Moscow began its unilateral nuclear test moratorium in August 1985, calling on the United States to agree to a total ban on testing as the first step to anuclear disarmament.

Last December it announced that it would end the freeze after the first U.S. test this year.

Washington had continued testing, saying the blasts were necessary to maintain its nuclear deterrent and that problems remained concerning the monitoring of a test freeze.

The United States staged one test on Feb. 3 and another on Feb. 11. Moscow responded with a blast on Feb. 26 and a second on March 12.

Police, squatters clash during Pope's visit to Chile

SANTIAGO (R) — Sixty people were reported wounded and 150 arrested in clashes between police and squatters only hours after Pope John Paul II told squatters he was deeply moved by the plight of Chile's poor.

Police said the attack was a carbon copy of the car bomb which killed one Civil Guard and wounded 18 others in Barcelona last Friday.

Guerrillas of the Basque ETA movement claimed responsibility for last Friday's dockside bombing in statements to Basque newspapers earlier this week. The separatist group also claimed three previous car bombings here last year.

The blast Thursday night killed Jose Fructuoso Gomez, a waiter in a nearby bar. He was leaving work when the bomb exploded, flinging his body 50 metres away.

The explosion set fire to 15 parked vehicles and riddled the Civil Guard patrol car with shrapnel. One of the occupants was undergoing emergency surgery early Friday and the other guard escaped with minor injuries.

A couple buried under a shower of shattered glass and two other passers-by were treated in hospital.

The dead man was named earlier as Ange-Aime Kenney, 36, who died after being trapped by smoke from the fire, company officials said. The dead man's brother Jean-Paul, who was with him, was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.

War increases child mortality in southern Africa

GENEVA (R) — The Duchess of Windsor's modern jewellery collection brought a staggering 50.2 million Swiss francs (\$33.5 million) in fierce bidding that drove prices on some pieces to 10 times their estimated value.

Buyers included Actress Elizabeth Taylor, who bid from beside her pool in Los Angeles, but the highest single price was 4.73 million Swiss francs (\$3.15 million) paid by a Japanese dealer for a 31-carat diamond ring.

"I bought it for the romance it represents, for the extraordinary quality of the diamond and for the good cause which the money will go towards — the fight against the terrible disease AIDS," Tsuneo Takagi told reporters.

The 95 lots fetched 43 million Swiss francs (\$28.7 million) in the auction which ran past midnight.

With a 17 per cent commission that the buyers must pay Sotheby's auction house, the total comes to more than \$50 million Swiss francs.

The UNICEF report says that the rebels of the Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) have destroyed 42 per cent of the country's health centres since 1982 and have deprived 300,000 children of primary education by destroying their schools.

Suppose declarer wins the first club and returns the suit. Declarer wins in dummy and returns to draw trumps and cash the ace of hearts. He still has a club with which to get to the table to cash his tricks.

France to spend \$80b on defence programmes

PARIS (R) — France announced planned spending of 474 billion francs (\$80 billion) on military programmes over the next five years, one third of which will upgrade and modernise its independent nuclear force.

The plan, which goes before the National Assembly next week for debate, excludes running costs for the armed forces which will cost almost as much again.

"The situation as we found it in 1986 was not very good ... We really had to make an effort," Defence Minister Andre Giraud told journalists at a press lunch.

Spending on military programmes would rise by about six per cent annually over the next four years, after jumping nearly 12 per cent this year.

France had started work on a nine-tonne light nuclear missile to replace some of its land-based nuclear forces by 1996, and that priority in the next five years would be given to maintaining and developing its nuclear submarine capability.

"We are currently spending

Kissinger, Schmidt predict Gorbachev's fall in 5 years

WASHINGTON (R) — Two top Western political figures said that when they gave reformist Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev only an even chance of survival and urged caution in pursuing what they agreed was an opportunity for better relations with Moscow.

Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger told a seminar at Georgetown University that Mr. Gorbachev's chances of survival were "about 50-50."

"I would not be surprised if, say in a five-year period, there was a change," Dr. Kissinger said. "I think his position is 50-50."

"I agree," commented Mr. Schmidt. "It's about 50-50."

Both said Moscow had no choice but to reform its economy or fall behind the rest of the world in development, and the West should guard against the temptation to see the reforms as an opportunity for a permanent peace.

"They are engaged in this process, not because they want to be

competitive," Dr. Kissinger said.

"Yes, we have an opportunity in the sense they want a period of respite, but there has to be some content given to what is meant by a peaceful world," he continued.

"We don't want to turn Soviet reform into an instrument of Soviet political warfare in which we have to pay in the currency of strategic interests for things they have to do in their own interests," he added.

Meanwhile the New York Times said Friday Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms have made his country exciting and have intrigued the world.

"There is energy coming from the Soviet Union, and it has the world intrigued," the newspaper said in an editorial.

It said the reforms generated debate in the West, adding that the world was watching closely for new developments. "He has made his country exciting," the editorial said.

"All these questions, all this energy, all coming from a gray, leaden, predictable, controlled Soviet Union. Amazing," the newspaper said.

Greece passes land bill despite church protests

ATHENS (R) — Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's Socialist government pushed a controversial bill through parliament early Friday giving the state the right to acquire large tracts of land owned by the Greek Orthodox Church.

But church leaders said the bill, although modified, was still unacceptable and the church was considering giving up its independence and becoming subject to the ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople (Istanbul).

Diplomats said such a move would embarrass Mr. Papandreou, who is locked in a dispute with Turkey over oil rights in the Aegean Sea.

The bill provided for 130,000 hectares (325,000 acres) of church lands — mainly forests, meadows and farmlands — to be taken over by the state within six months.

The main opposition New

Democracy Party walked out from parliament but this did not prevent the bill being passed by a voice vote in the early hours by Mr. Papandreou's ruling Pasok Party with Communist support.

Opposition leader Constantine Mitsotakis said if his New Democracy Party came to power the law would be abolished.

Mr. Mitsotakis repeated his call for early general elections, but government spokesman Yannis Roubanis said elections would not be called before the early summer of 1989 — the date when Mr. Papandreou's second term in office ends.

Education and Religion Minister Antonis Trikis had amended the bill from its original draft, changing one clause which gave local government officials the right to help select local church councils.

The collection combines 20th-century masterpieces with historical love tokens given to the duchess left the collection on her death last year.